

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The draft Civil Aviation Policy, seeks to set up a policy framework to promote efficient, cost effective and orderly growth of air transport, ensure safety and security in accordance with international standards and generate a healthy competitive civil aviation environment which contributes to social and economic development of the country. This policy document is being finalised and will be announced in the near future.

Expansion of Indian Airlines Service from Guwahati

172. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several major towns like Tezpur, Jorhat, Dibrugarh and Silchar are not connected with Guwahati through Indian Airlines network; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government will seriously consider to connect these towns with Guwahati, the capital of Assam, through Indian Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. However, Indian Airlines operates 2 flights to tezpur, 4 flights to Jorhat, 4 flights to Dibrugarh and 6 flights to Silchar per week from Calcutta. In addition, daily flights are operated to Guwahati from Delhi and Calcutta.

(b) Constraints of aircraft capacity and commercial considerations do not at present permit airlinking of Guwahati with Tezpur, Jorhat, Dibrugarh and silchar.

Re-Building of AAI's Image

173. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India has a scheme to re-build its image;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far the AAI has succeeded with this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Airports Authority of India do not have a specific scheme to re-build its image, but takes up the task of corporate image building through on-going process of media briefing and information dissemination.